

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01

CIAE-00 OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 INR-07

L-03 NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-03 USIA-06 OES-03 SS-15

SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 /092 W

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R 191606Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6129

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THE HAGUE 3117

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, UN, NL

SUBJ: RECOMMENDATIONS OF UN EXPERTS GROUP ON UNEP

REF: UN DOC NO E/AC.62/9

1. DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY'S OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS CALLED ON EMBASSY 6/18 TO REQUEST "INFORMALLY" U.S.G. VIEWS ON RECOMMENDATION CONTAINED IN UN EXPERTS GROUP'S REPORT THAT UNEP GOVERNING COUNCIL'S POLICY FUNCTIONS BE TRANSFERRED TO ECOSOC (SEE REF DOCUMENT, PARA 61(3)). MINHEALTH OFFICE SAID THAT HIS MINISTRY IS CONCERNED OVER POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS OF ADOPTION THAT RECOMMENDATION OF UNEP'S PROGRAM. SPECIFIC CONCERN IS THAT, SHOULD UNEP'S POLICY FUNCTION BE TRANSFERRED TO ECOSOC, PRESENT UNEP ORIENTATION TOWARD PROBLEMS OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT WILL BE DISPLACED BY STRICTLY DEVELOPMENT-ORIENTED BIAS HELD BY MOST LDC'S, WHICH ARE IN POSITION TO MAKE THEIR VIEWS PREVAIL IN

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ECOSOC. WHILE GON HAD INITIALLY BEEN SKEPTICAL ON NEED

FOR SETTING UP SEPARATE UN MACHINERY AND FUND ON ENVIRONMENT, AND HAD GONE ALONG WITH PROPOSAL ONLY TO FACILITATE AGREEMENT, IT WAS NOW CONVINCED THAT ORGANIZATION AND PROGRAM IN PRESENT FORM ARE WORTH WHILE AND ARE BEING EFFECTIVELY RUN.

2. EMBOFF REPLIED THAT, TO HIS KNOWLEDGE, NO GUIDANCE WAS YET AVAILABLE ON SUBJECT FROM WASHINGTON, BUT THAT GIVEN USG'S COMMITMENT TO CONCEPT OF UN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM DATING AT LEAST FROM STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE, WHICH CONCEPT HAS FOR THE MOST PART BEEN EMBODIED IN PRESENT ORGANIZATION AND PROGRAM OF UNEP, SAME CONCERNS DESCRIBED ABOVE WERE LIKELY TO PREVAIL AMONG INTERESTED US AGENCIES.

3. EMBOFF SAID THAT OFFICIAL USG POSITION ON RECOMMENDATION IN QUESTION IS NOT YET LIKELY TO BE AVAILABLE IN VIEW OF DOCUMENT'S VERY RECENT PUBLICATION. KAKABEEKE REPEATED THAT HIS REQUEST WAS ON AN INFORMAL BASIS AND THAT ANY VIEWS OF INTERESTED US AGENCIES WOULD BE MOST WELCOME.

ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE FOR MORE AUTHORITATIVE REPLY TO HEALTH MINISTRY. FYI. WE DOUBT THAT HEALT MINISTRY HAS CLEARED OR COORDINATED ITS REQUEST WITH MFA. GOULD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENVIRONMENT, REORGANIZATIONS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975THEHA03117
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750215-0242
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750633/aaaabdrq.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 UN DOC NO E/A2/9
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <22 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RECOMMENDATIONS OF UN EXPERTS GROUP ON UNEP
TAGS: SENV, NL, UN, UNEP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006